



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

RASHTCHIAN *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/741,664

Filing Date: December 21, 2000

For: **Stable Compositions for Nucleic
Acid Amplification and
Sequencing**

Confirmation No. 7736

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Souaya, Jehanne E.

Atty. Docket: 0942.3910003/BJD/AGU

Reply To Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated November 18, 2002, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-33, 35 and 44-59. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

This election is made **without** traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: Jan. 21, 2003

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